

THE
GRAND DEBATE

BETWEEN

The most Reverend the *BISHOPS*,

AND

The PRESBYTERIAN Divines,

Appointed by His Sacred

MAJESTY,

AS

Brit. COMMISSIONERS

FOR

The Review and Alteration

OF THE BOOK OF

COMMON PRAYER, &c.

BEING

An Exact Account of their whole Proceedings.



The most perfect Copy.

London, Printed 1661.

THE
GRAND DEBATE

BETWEEN

THE MOST REVEREND THE BISHOP OF
THE PARISH OF ST. MARY'S

MARY

Zd. 1230

AND

A Copy of His Majesties Commission.



CHARLES the second by the Grace of God King of England, Scotland, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To our Trusty and wel-beloved, the most Reverend Father in God, Accepted Arch-bishop of York, The right reverend Fathers in God, Gilbert Bishop of London, John Bishop of Durham, John Bishop of Rochester, Humphrey Bishop of Sarum, George Bishop of Worcester, Robert Bishop of Lincoln, Benjamin Bishop of Peterborough, Brian Bishop of Chester, Richard Bishop of Carlile, John Bishop of Exeter, Edward Bishop of Norwich, & to our trusty and wel-beloved, the Reverend Anthony Tuckney D.D. John Conant D.D. William Spurstow D.D. John Wallis D.D. Thomas Manton, D.D. Edmund Calamy B.D. Richard Baxter Clerke, Arthur Jackson, Tho. Case, Samuel Clarke, Matthew Newcomen, Clerkes; and to our trusty and wel-beloved Dr. Earle Dean of Westminster, Peter Heylin, D.D. Joh. Hacket, D.D. Joh. Berwick D. D. Peter Gunning D.D. John Pearson D.D. Tho. Pierce D.D. Anthony Sparrow, Herbert Thorndike D.D. Thomas Horton D.D. Thomas Jacomb, D. D. William Bate, John Rawlinson, William Cooper, Clerkes, D. John Light.

foot, D. John Collings, D. Benjamin Woodbridg, and
VWilliam Drake Clerke, Greeting. Whereas by our
Declaration of the 25 of October last concerning
Ecclesiasticall affaires, we did (amongst other
things) express our esteem of the Liturgy of the
Church of *England*, contained in the Book of
Common prayer; and yet since we find exceptions
made against several things therein, we did by our
said Declaration declare we would appoint an e-
qual number of learned Divines, of both perswa-
sions, to review the same: we therefore in accom-
plishment of our said wil and intent, and of our
continued and constant care and study for the
peace and unity of the Churches within our do-
minions, & for removal of all exceptions and dif-
ferences, and the occasions of such differences,
and exceptions from among our good subjects, for
or concerning the said Book of Common prayer,
or any thing therein contained, doe by these our
Letters patents require, authorize, constitute, and
appoint you the said, &c. to advise upon and re-
view the said Book of Common prayer, compa-
ring the same with the most ancient Liturgies
which have been used in the Church in the primi-
tive and purest times. And to that end to assemble
and meet together, from time to time, and at such
time within the space of foure Calendar moneths
now next ensuing, in the Masters lodging in the
Savoy.

Savoy in the Strand in the County of *Middlesex*,
or in such other place or places as to you shall be
thought fit and convenient, to take into your se-
rious and grave considerations the several directi-
ons and rules, forms of prayer, and things in the
said Book of Common prayer contained, and to
advise, consult upon, and about the same, and the
several objections and exceptions, which shall
now be raised against the same, and (if occasion
be) to make such reasonable and necessary altera-
tions, corrections and amendments therein as by
and between you the said Arch-bishop, Bishops,
Doctors, and Persons hereby required and autho-
rized to meet and advise as aforesaid, shall be a-
greed upon to be needfull and expedient, for the
giving satisfaction to tender consciences, and the
restoring and continuance of peace and unity in
the Churches under our protection and Govern-
ment; but avoyding (as much as may be) all un-
necessary abbreviations of the Forms and Liturgy
wherewith the people are altogether acquainted,
and have so long received in the Church of *Eng-
land*. And our will and pleasure is, that when
you the said Arch-bishop, Bishops, Doctors,
and persons authorized and appointed by these
our Letters patents to meet, advise, and consult
upon and about the premises, as aforesaid, shall
have drawn your consultations to any resolution
and

and determination which you shall agree upon as needfull or expedient to be done for the altering, diminishing, or enlarging, the said Book of Common prayer, or any part thereof, that then forthwith you certifie and present to us in writing under your severall hands the matters and things whereupon you shall so determine, for our approbation, and to the end the same or so much thereof as shall be approved by us, may be established, and for as much as the said Archbishop & Bishops have severall great Charges to attend, which we would not dispense with, or that the same should be neglected upon any great occasion whatsoever, and some of them being of great age and infirmities, may not be able constantly to attend the execution of the service and authority hereby given and required by us, in the meeting and consultation aforesaid; We will therefore and hereby require you the said Dr. *Earles*, &c. to supply the place and places of such of the Arch-bishop and Bishops (other then the said *Edward Bishop of Norwich*) as shall by age, sickness, infirmity, or other occasion be hindered from attending the said meeting or consultation (that is to say) that one of you the said Dr. *Earles*, &c. shall from time to time supply the place of each one of them, the said Arch-bishop and Bishops (other then the said *Edward Bishop of Norwich*) which shall happen

pen to be hindred not to be absent from the said meetings, or consultations, and shall and may advise, consult and determine, and also certifie and execute all and singular the powers and authorities before mentioned in and about the premises, as fully and absolutely as such Arch-bishop and Bishops which shal so happen to be absent should or might doe by vertue of these our Letters patents, or any thing herein contained, in case he or they were personally present. And whereas in regard of the distance of some, the infirmity of others, the multitude of constant employment, and other incidental impediments, some of you the said *Edward Bishop of Norwich*, &c. may be hindred from the constant attendance in the execution of the service aforesaid, We therefore wil and doe hereby require and authorize you the said *Thomas Horton*, &c. to supply the place or places of such the Commissioners last before mentioned, as shal by the means aforesaid or any other occasion be hindred from the said meeting and consultations that one of you, the said *Thomas Horton*, &c. shal from time to time supply the places of each one of the said Commissioners last mentioned, which shal happen to be hindered or absent from the said meeting and consultations: and shal and may advise consult and determine, and also certifie and execute all and singular the powers and